

PATENT APPLICATION
Q62661

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE



here application of
Makoto TSURUTA

Appln. No. 09/777,661

Group Art Unit: 1733

Confirmation No.: 9239

Examiner: Justin R. Fischer

Filed: February 7, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC TIRES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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TC 1700

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for Form PTO-1449) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier) and, therefore, Applicant is filing

concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a European Search Report dated February 25, 2002, issued by the European Patent Office (EPO) in a counterpart foreign application (EP 01 30 1013) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the EPO.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 21, 2002



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In re application of

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#5/10/02
5/28/02

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin
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